



# Tiger Tech Talk

Scobee Middle School

November 2009  
Volume 4

Roaring with Tiger Pride!

## Having Technical Difficulties?

If you experience problems with your computer hardware, printers, internet access, etc. please submit a work order through the [Help Desk](#) link found on the "For Staff" page of our campus website. All work orders will be handled on a first come first serve basis. Our Campus Technician is, Jeff Powell.

Having difficulty utilizing a certain program or just need extra guidance and instruction? The following are available resources:

- Campus Instructional Technologist (CIT), Laura Lopez.
- A Campus Technology Leader: John Bushong, David Casas, Joel DeLeon, Tanya Mendez, Ivy Shaw, Kathie Smeins, and Victoria Vega.
- Online tutorials found on the "For Staff" page of our campus website—["Technology Training Resources"](#)

There are two Tech Leader positions available. If interested in applying, please Laura Lopez, CIT.

## Welcome Back and Welcome Aboard to our New Teachers!



For our new teachers, I am your **CIT, Laura Lopez**. As your CIT, it is my job to help staff

members on our campus with the development of technology learning environments designed to support students and staff. Below is a brief description of my job duties.

- Facilitate and actively work with teachers in instructional planning.
- Model Teach, Co-Teach and/or facilitate classroom instruction
- Plan, develop and deliver pro-

fessional development opportunities/activities for staff.

- Develop communication networks between staff to share lessons, activities and best practices.
- Monitor successful use and maintenance of resources.
- Collaborate with Principal and staff members in technology planning, purchasing and implementation of instructional resources.

I look forward to working with each of you and making this our best year yet for technology integration.

## Beginning of the year Reminders and Updates

### Summer School Teachers:

Any summer school teachers that checked-out technology equipment must check it in to the CIT and Librarian by Monday, Aug. 17th.

### Technology Check-Out:

CIT will begin checking out technology equipment in the following order Friday, Aug 14th:

- Tech Leaders
- Teacher Leaders
- Teachers
- Administration

### First Class:

#### Updates to Teacher Webpages

- Remove Summer message
- Welcome message
- Class Syllabus

- Class Schedule
- Contact Information
- Calendar of Events

### First Class:

#### Conference Areas

Verify you have all of the conference areas you need. If not sure please ask me or your fellow Grade and Subject area teachers.

- Your grade level icon
- Your content area icon
- Computer Lab icons
- Sco Announcements
- Sco In School Suspension
- If you are an electives teacher, make sure you have the "Sco Electives"
- Depending on your position and job assignments you may need others. If not sure ask me.

## Tiger Tech Talk

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## Scobee is Raising the Bar with Mr. DeLeon's Vodcasting!

If you did n't get a chance to read last week's District Technology Division Update Newsletter, our very own Mr. Joel DeLeon was highlighted for his Vodcasts.

Go and check it out! You will find it in either the District Announcements

area or Sco Announcements area. If you want to view his Podcasts and Vodcasts, go to his website: <http://sco.swisd.net/teachers/de%20leon/Podcasts/>

Way to represent Scobee in regards to technology integration. Great Job!

## PTLC Schedule for Core Content and Electives

PTLC (Professional Technology Learning Community) classes begin this week. Classes will be offered on a biweekly basis. So the next PTLC class will be Sept. 16th, and will continue on a bi-weekly schedule for the remainder of the year. So mark your calendars.

- *Core Content Teachers:* Will attend during their scheduled PTLC times on Wednesdays.
- *Elective Teachers:* Will need to pick either Thursday or Friday of PTLC week to come in for Technology Training. You must let Mrs. Lopez know which day and period you chose so she may set up a schedule.

## Gradespeed

Gradespeed login - By Friday, Aug. 21st all teachers will need to log into Gradespeed. *Please see the instruction sheet attached.*

Teachers will be given paper class rosters on 1st and 2nd day of school for attendance. On 3rd day teachers will take attendance electronically in Gradespeed.

## Teacher Webpages



Our teacher web pages are coming along nicely. If you get a chance, take a look at some of your fellow colleague's web pages. We have noticed a big improvement in their look and feel. Great job in raising the bar again!

If you have not yet completed the updates to your teacher web page, please do so as soon as possible.

Here is a list of items needing to be updated and/or included on all teacher web pages.

### Updates to Teacher Web Pages

- Remove Summer message
- Welcome message
- Class Syllabus
- Class Schedule
- Contact Information
- Teacher Photo
- Calendar of Events
- Update any links

If you need assistance, please let your CIT or your assigned Technology Leader know as soon as possible and we will be happy to help you.

## Want to Create Your Own Podcast or Vodcast?

If you would like to learn more about creating your very own Podcasts or Vodcasts, we look forward to seeing you at our Happy Hour Tech Training on Podcasting.

Your Tech Committee is currently working on this years Happy Hour

schedule. As soon as it is completed, it will be posted on our Sco Announcements area. Look for it next week!



## Technology Proficiency Program

A **HUGE** round of applause to all of our **returning teachers** for completing the first phase of Level II. The focus this year will continue to be on Level II and Level II Portfolios. Teachers need to begin working on this by the second week of school. More details to come.

**For all new teachers** and others who have not yet completed Level I of the Technology Proficiency Program, their focus will be on completing the Level I Examination this year.

Mrs. Laura Lopez, CIT will be in contact via e-mail with everyone that Level I pertains to.

She will outline all of requirements of the Technology Proficiency plan as set by district policy, with an emphasis on Level I requirements.

Mrs. Lopez will advise you of the required meeting dates pertaining to Level I for the entire year.

Please mark your calendars accordingly.



## Technology Integration in Full Swing during Tiger Time Science Lessons!

In an effort to meet the District Science Initiative goals for this year, Scobee has gone above and beyond to set the stage for Science Success for all.

Our Science Department is in charge of planning and creating all Science Tutoring lessons being delivered during our campus scheduled tutoring time called "Tiger Time." The main focus of these lessons is to provide additional support and reinforcement of Science concepts for all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students.

The Science Teachers have really done a fabulous job of utilizing and integrating the use of Technology in the delivery and make-up of all lessons. Lessons are delivered to all teachers via a First Class "Tiger Time" conference area. From there teachers have access to lesson directions and all resources needed for delivery of the lesson. To date, some examples of technology integration would be the use of KLRN United Streaming and Safari Montage videos, teacher created Power Points that have embedded URLs, videos, and pictures;

word documents containing information, quizzes, vocabulary, etc. They've also created a movie, using Sony's Vegas Movie Studio which is part of the new Creative Learning Lab. It featured the science teacher's voices, a converted PowerPoint, a quiz, and music complete with special animations.

Way to Go Science Department. You are all doing a phenomenal job of providing in-depth science lessons and technology rich instruction for all of our students. Kudos to all of you for a job well done!

*Photos of Science Teachers creating Tiger Time Science Lessons.*

*Top: Back row; left to right—Mr. Joel DeLeon, Mr. Brian Pennartz. Front row; left to right—Mr. David Casas and Ms. Carol Magallanez*

*Middle: Mr. David Casas and Carol Magallanez*

*Bottom: Mr. David Casas and Joel DeLeon*



## PTLC Schedule for October

This month's PTLC classes will be offered back-to-back weeks of October 19-23 and October 26-30.

Topics to be addressed:

- Wk of Oct 19-23: Will begin Eduphoria: Forethought training.
- Core Content Areas will meet in Rm 606 on Mon., Oct 19th during PLC times.
- All Electives will come to Rm 606 on Wed., Oct 21st during their Conference Periods.

- Wk of Oct 26-30: On regular
- PTLC schedule. STaR Chart training, data analysis, and completion of this year's Teacher STaR Chart survey.
- Updates on Level II Technology Proficiency Portfolios.
- Please register in LMS for next week's class.



## Scobee's Tech Committee Update

The next Tech Committee meeting is Tuesday, Oct 20th. Meeting objectives:

- Finalize and submit Technology section of CIP completed.
- Review Happy Hour yearly schedule. Final calendar will be distributed during next week's PTLC.
- Review Technology needed items that have been purchased.
- All Tech Leaders will be trained to set-up both Library and Cafeteria projectors.





## October was a busy month for Technology Training. Job Well Done to all Scobee Staff!



*Forethought Training*

Congratulations on a job well done during the very busy, yet very productive month of October!

We introduced our new electronic lesson plan format in Eduphoria's Fore-

thought program; teacher's were learning how to use Eduphoria's Aware program to gather BEM 1 Data to be used for identifying students in need of intervention plans and then creating Monitoring Groups based on the data within Aware; and last but not least we took an in-depth look at a 3-Year Comparison Report of Scobee's STaR Chart data before completing this years survey.

Of course our main emphasis was on Forethought and learning to create lesson plans. We had some kinks to work out, but nothing major. Overall, teachers have given positive feed-back on it's

use and the benefits of the program. The only challenge has been the actual learning of the program itself, just as with any new program. This is normal.

If you are experiencing any difficulties utilizing any of these new programs, please contact either Monica Munoz, Academic Coach or Laura Lopez, CIT for assistance.

Thanks again for all of your hard work and dedication to assuring success for all our students.

## November's Tech Happy Hour Schedule

All Happy Hour Trainings will be held in the Teacher Technology Lab, room 606, 3:30—4:30 pm.

- Nov 5th—Atomic Learning
- Nov 12th—Blogs

Remember: For anyone who attends a Tech Happy Hour they will receive a "Jean Day Pass" and as usual snacks will be provided. Hope to see you in attendance.

## PTLC Topic Week of Nov 9—13

We will continue to focus on Eduphoria's Forethought program for creation of lesson plans. There are some really useful tips and tricks to show you that will make things easier for you. Please make sure you attend your regularly scheduled day and time. You don't want to miss it!

## Campus Tech Committee Update

The Tech Committee completed the first draft of the Technology section of our Campus Improvement Plan for 2009-2010. The 1st Draft of our Campus Improvement Plan has been posted to our campus website on the "About Us" page.

Our next Tech Committee meeting has been rescheduled from November 17th to November 19th. If you have any news or items of concern that you would like to have discussed at our next meeting, please let one of your Tech Leaders know and we will add it to our agenda.

The main topic to be discussed at our next committee meeting will be the planning and development of support material for the 8th Grade TA TEKS Online Exam coming up in May 2010.

Other items of discussion will be technology purchase orders, status update on our new 8th Grade Computer Lab, and the installation of mounting kits in all classrooms for permanent placement of LCD projectors.

## Health Classes Gone Techie!

Coach Roland's High School Credit Health classes have been creating some fantastic Power Point projects that emphasize the Systems of the Human Body. As a guide, students are using a detailed rubric that Coach Roland developed.

Students have really enjoyed the use of laptops and are showing progress in their applications of various TA TEKS.

Way to INTEGRATE Coach Roland!

### CIT/Editor Contact Information

*Please feel free to contact the CIT for any article submissions or to report any erroneous information published within this newsletter. Your comments and feedback are welcomed.*

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